

104TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1343

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide that eligible organizations assure out-of-network access.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 19 (legislative day, OCTOBER 18), 1995

Mr. HELMS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide that eligible organizations assure out-of-network access.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Senior Citizens Health
5 Freedom Act of 1995”.

6 **SEC. 2. ASSURING OUT-OF-NETWORK ACCESS.**

7 Section 1876 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
8 1395mm) is amended by adding at the end the following
9 new subsection:

1 “(k)(1) An eligible organization that contracts with
2 a specific network of providers must not limit the ability
3 of its enrollees under this section to seek at any time
4 items, treatment, and services from out-of-network provid-
5 ers for all covered benefits.

6 “(2) An eligible organization under this section shall
7 provide for reimbursement for the enrollee in an amount
8 equal to 70 percent of the reasonable charges for such
9 services, with respect to out-of-network services which are
10 described in paragraph (1), so long as the services are
11 medically appropriate and are covered benefits in-net-
12 work.”.

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